There are very few people who are aware what fine collection of historical portraits is contained in our City Hall, and unless a special search was made for them, no one would be able to wonch for their existence. Instead of those historical and artistic treasares being placed so that they may be seen to advantage, particular pains appear to have been taken to hice them in rooms not open to the public. Ever since the great telegraphic celebration in honor of Mr. Cyrus W. Field, which resulted in burning down the capela of the City Hall, an artist has been employed in clean ing, touching up, va-nishing, and rehanging our civic

The suite of three fine apartments in the center of the Hall, facing the Park, are called, par eminence, the Governor's Room; and here are supposed to hang the full-length portraits of all the Governors of the State, and the half-lengths of all the Mayors of the city. But, in looking at the sixty odd paintings in the Governor's Room, one soon discovers that the likenesses of a good many of our Governors are not there; and, the conclusion is that they have not been painted, and, the conclusion is true they have not been painted, owing either to the parsimony of the City of Fathers, or the lack of competent artists to perform the work. A little research, however, will show that all our Governore have been painted, excepting one only, but that they have not all been put together, as they should be. where they would form a fine study of costumes, of the progress of art, and the chronological history of the State. It is entirely inexcusable that the portraits of Governors have not been properly arranged in the Governor's Room, because there is no lack of space on the walls, and the collection would form the very best gallery of which the city can boast. There are in this 100m, full-length portraits of Lafayette, Washington, President Monroe, Gen. Taylor, Gen. Scott, all the commodores of the war of 1812, and some of the generale, while the finest picture in the City Hall, Trambull's full-length portrait of George Clinton, the first Govern-or of the State, is hung in the Aldermen's Room, togother with the portrait of Gov. Jay. There would be a peculiar fitness in placing these two portraits in the Governor's room. There are two other pictures in the Aldermen's room which ought to be placed where they can be seen. These are Trumbull's full-length portrait of Washington, which is said to be the best likeness, and which is certainly one of the finest pictures of him, and the full-length of Alexander Hamilton. In the Councilmen's Chamber are placed Hicks's portrait of Governor Fish, and Gray's pertrait of Governor Young, where the portraits of Henry Clay and President Fillmore keep them company; but President Fillmore, being a New Yorker, might claim a right to a place in the Governor's Room, where a wretched caricature of Simon Bolivar is hung. In the Supervisors' Room, which is never open to the public, are two of Jarvis's finest portraits, General Brown and General Swift, both of whom, being New-Yorkers, should be placed amerg the worthies of the State. There is now hardly available space for hanging another portrait in any part of the City Hall; yet there are three gubernatorial pictures already completed, which must be placed somewhere and as we may count on a new Governor and a new Mayor every other year, it will be seen that the city will very soon have a much larger collection of portraits on hand than it will be able to dispose of, unless a new City Hall shall be built. In the meanwhile, however, it is not decent to turn our Gov-ernors out of their own proper apartment to give place to strangers and foreigners, who have no special claims upon our hospitalicy. Simon Bolivar. Gen. Paez, and the Arab castain of the Imaum of Muscat's ship that visited us a few years ago, are all in the Governor's Room, smiling complacently or frowning grimly from their gilded enclosures. We have not a syllable to utter against these distinguished foreigners, but their proper place is not in the Governor's room; they should be hung up in the presencechan ber of the Aldermen, where they would be perpetral reminders to the Booles and Bagley's of the enormous sums they have squandered in entertaining the stray notorieties who have honored us by their Whatever benefits may be derived from preserving the corporeal resemblances of the worthies whose public acts tave shed a glory upon the country and our State, it is very plain that the moral effect is naught. The great Chatham could make an eloquent appeal to the portraits of the naval heroes whose visa ges used to adorn the Chamber of Peers, but none of our Aldermen have shown any conscioustess of being gazed upon by Washington, and Clinton, and Jay, and Hamilton, and Franklin, and Marshall, whose portraits and busts bave for so many years been their silent companions while they have plundered the city and dishonored their offices by their disreputable duct.

-Scotland has ever been prompt, liberal, and tasteful in erecting memorials in honor of her distinguished sons, whether they wielded pens, swords, or pencilswhether they earned their laurels on sea or on shore. in the Senate or the school-room. No people of Europe have shown themselves so grateful for the honors conferred upon their name by the exploits of their children as the Scotch. It is rather singular, therefore, that the remains of the peasant author of the Queen's Wake should have rested so long beneath the green turf of Ettrick without a monument to mark their lonely resting-place. But they have at last received their due meed, not of marble, but of "Denholm sandstone," in the form which the poet himself wore, in his shepherd's dress, and with his ' faithful Hector' cronching at his feet. The monument was inaugurated last month, thirty five years after the poet's death. The sculptor was a Scotchman, named Currie, who designed the monument to Mungo Park, another of Scotland's worthies who had been waiting long for a monumental memorial. And this mention of these monuments cannot fail to call to mind the remissness of our own countrymen in erecting memorials to the honor of the men whose works have added a luster to the American name. What has become of the monument in monor of Fenimore Corper, which we heard so much of a few years ago? Where is the "association" of distinguished gentlemen who took the matter in hand, and whose chairman was the venerable Doctor Francis? There was a great meeting at the Metropolitan some years ago, the object of which was to raise funds for this object, and eng the gentlemen who took part in the proceedings were Daniel Webster, Washington Irving, and Doctor Griswold, themselves now subjects for monumental remembrances. The stately hall in which that meeting was held has long since ceased to be among the tangible things of the earth, and the Cooper monument is not yet an "socomplished fact."

Apropos of monuments. An association has been in Rhode Island under the name of "The Roger Williams Monument Association," and the managers have advertised for plans of a monument "not less than 150 feet high." to be erected in Providence, for which they agree to pay a premium of \$250 for the one adopted. The premium is not a very great tempta tion for sculptors and architects who have plenty of work on their hands, but it will be sufficient to set a good many idle hands to work, and prove an incentive to a large number of ambitious beginners in art.

EDUCATIONAL MEETING -A joint meeting of the American Normal School and National Teachers' Asso ciations will be held at Buffalo, N. Y., commencing on Tuesday pext, Aug. 7, and continuing through the week. The Normal Association will organize on Tues-day, at 10 o'clock a. m., and the National on the following day, at the same hour and place. Various well-known gentlemen who are deeply interested in all matters pertaining to popular education will be present. Opportunity will be offered for general discussion on the most important themes pertaining to the several departments of instruction, government, and discipline, from the Primary School to the University The Local Committee at Buffalo are making all neces estry arrangements for the meeting, and the citizens of

that place will entertain the ladies gratuitously. A reduction in the charges will be made to those who put up at the hotels, and a reduction of fare has been secured on several of the railroads leading to Buffalo. It is expected that this will be the largest and most important educational meeting ever held in the United

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE AD-VANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

From Our Own Reporter.

MORNING SESSION.

SECTION OF MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS.

The section on Physics having been called to order this morning, Prof. Gibbs, the permanent Chairman, called Prof. A. D. Bache to the chair. The first paper was on the theoretical determination of the dimensions of Donati's comet, in which Prof. W. A. Norten discussed and reviewed the observations and calculations of European astronomers, and also the paper of Prof. Peirce at the Springfield meeting, with whose results Prof. Norton's results for the most part agreed. One of the views peculiar to Prof. Norton is that the nucleus probably revolved once in thirty-six hours, giving periodical variations in the jets of luminous matter. His general view was, that the matter of the tail contained particles attracted or repelled with various force, from a repulsion twice that of gravity to an attraction about half that of gravity. Other comets may have had the repelled matter predominant, making a narrow tail like that of 1843, or had little matter of intermediate character between strongly repelled and strongly-attracted particles, and thus had a double tail like that of 1744.

Dr. R. A. Gould made some inquiries concerning

strongly-attracted particles, and thus had a double tail like that of 1744.

Dr. B. A. Gould made some inquiries concerning Prof Norton's modes of calculation, to which Prof. Norton made very satisfactory replies. With regard to Prof. Norton's theory, Dr. Gould objected that it assumed too many independent variables by allowing an indefinite number of degrees of force to the particles of the tail. Still. Dr. G. acknowledged with great cordiality the thoroughness and value of Prof. Norton's investigations. Prof. Hackley also questioned Prof. N. concerning the assumptions made as to the basis of his calculations.

Notion's investigations. Prof. Hackley also questioned Prof. N. concerning the assumptions made as to the basis of his calculations.

Prof. G. W. Coakley of Maryland, gave an account of his own investigation of a comet's tail, on the theory that the tail is a very high tide in the luminous ocean of envelope around the nucleus.

Mr. R. F. Harrison of Willingford, Connecticut, read a paper on the solution of ice in inland waters. From his thermometerical investigations (which he detailed) upon a pend in Connecticut during the past Winter, he concludes that the average temperature of the water under a closed pond of ice rises from the early Winter, from the heat of the earth boneath, and this warmth of water assists in dissolving the ice more rapidly in Spring. This led to a lively conversation for a iew moments, in which Prof. Horsford endeavored to force Mr. Harrison to acknowledge that a large part of this heat might have come from the sun, direct. Prof. Elias Loomis read a paper upon natural ice houses, and on frozen wells. He thought that deep cavities were traps to catch cold air, which rans into them by its own gravity, and cannot escape except by becoming warm, and so rising. If the mouth of the cavity is favorable to the reception of the cold air, and its internal walls and floor are not of a nature to warm it rapidly, the temperature will be much below the mesn temperature of the external air. He read descriptions of several such caves and mines in Europe and in the United States. The proof that the cold air of Winter russ into open wells is found in the fact that columns of vapor are seen rising from

in Europe and in the United States. The proof that the cold air of Winter russ into open wells is found in the fact that columns of vacor are seen rising from such wells in frosty weather. The reason that all open wells do not freeze is found in the fact that in most wells there is in fact a stream running through the well, not remaining exposed to the air long enough to freeze.

Mr. J. M. Ordwey thought the explanations of Prof. Loomis were insufficient. The effect of friction upon currents of air is so great that we cannot reason upon the flow of air of different temperatures as we would upon the flow of fluids of different densities.

President Hitchcock remarked that Prof. Loomis's remarks certainly failed to explain the well-known cases, such as those in the Ural Mountains, wherein there is a rapid circulation of air at all seasons of the year, the cavities having lateral openings as well as openings at the top. He also called attention to the fact that frezen wells are found almost, if not quite invariably, in loose gravel.

variably, in loose gravel.

The discussion was estried on for some time between Messrs. Loomis, Ordway, and Hitchcock, and the Section then adjourned to dinner.

SECTION OF GEOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY

Col. J. W. Foster in the chair.

Chas. H. Hitchcock of Amherst, Mass., gave a paper on the age of the coal basin of Rhode Island, attempting to show that it belongs to the oldest of the three

Prof. W. B. Rogers doubted some of Mr. Hitchcock's conclusions; he was not sure that the beds of Rhode Island did not reach through the whole coal-bearing

Is and all not reach through the saw the deposits of peat in Massachusetts, and of wood in the swamps of the Scuth, and how different they were, and that they might both one day be turned into coal, we should not conclude that two basins of coal in different latitudes were of different ages because they differed in lithological character or in fossils; we saw how different the animals growing in these swamps and bogs were now. He was prepared to show that deposits formed in or near periods might not contain a single identical fossil, and that, therefore, our present criterion of synchronand that, therefore, our present criterion of synchron-ism from identical cossils, lacked one element of cer-tainty. Nor was it necessary that deposits should be tainty. Nor was it necessary that deposits should be very thick to represent a long period. Since the creation of msn there had been but 60 or 70 feet of coal reef formed in the Floridas, and the carboniferous period night contain innumerable epochs. He thought that as yet our facts were not sufficiently numerous to authorize us to draw any very definite conclusions.

Col. Foster said that he had long been satisfied that the attempt to establish the synchronism of different beds over large surfaces must fail.

Prof. Agnesiz said that he did not wish to be underlying the synchronism of the synchronism of

stood as disparsging the value of Palseontology in the determination of the age of rocks, but he was satisfied that it should be carefully compared with the present distribution of animals over the surface of the earth. President Hitchcock of Amherst gave a paper on the lathropteris of East Hampton, an ancient fern, as yet

latinopteris of East Hampton, an anticerter, as just a imperfectly described.

President Hitchcock then presented to the attention f the Section a boulder of granular quartz, the incitor of which presented the singular appearance of a

ripple mark.
Dr. J. G. Morris read a paper by Dr. C. Johnson of Dr. J. G. Morris read a paper by Dr. C. Johnson of Baltimore on a very fine tripoli found in Nottingham, Calvert Co., Md. The paper was short, consisting principally of a list of the shells composing it, and the opinions of several gentlemen to whom he had sub-mitted specimens of this diatomaceous earth. Prof. Agassiz asked if there were any samples of this certific present.

is earth present. Dr. Morris said that Mr. Tyson would farnish them. Dr. Morris said that Mr. Tyson would furnish them. Prof. W. B. Rogers said that he had found considerable beds of this in Virginia and North Carolina, and generally in connection with fossils which were clearly referable to the Meiocene. He thought that this would be found to be at the base of the Meiocene. It was very interesting to trace these deposits for so great a distance along what might be supposed to be an ancient seaboard.

Prest. Hitchcock then gave a description of some breclated trachytic dykes in Shelbourne, Vt., with special reference to their temperature when formed. He supposed the fragments composing the breecia to have been washed in by the water of an ocean, then to be heated to nearly 1,000°, which would cement the

Prof. Agassiz asked how there could be any ocean

Prof. Agassiz ssked how there could be any ocean which would wash pebbles into such heated spots.

President Hitchcock said that he made the suggestion only because it was the best he had.

Prof. Agassiz thought that naturalists should proceed with the same care and exactness in their reasoning which was used in mathematics. They should be as careful in making their hypotheses. Until then we should have those wild theories of spontaneous generation. Darwinism, and the like, which now were the disgrace of science.

Mr. J. D. Whitney read a paper, prepared by himself and Col. Foster, on the origin and stratigraphical relations of the trappean rocks of Lake Superior. It was a minute description and discussion of the traps found in the Lake Superior region, especially about the copper mines at Keweenaw Point, and presented as many objections as possible to the theory, now pressed with much vigor, that trap is not of igneous origin.

Prof. Agassiz quite concurred with the authors of the Prof. Agassiz quite concurred with the authors of the paper, that an examination of the shores of Lake Superier fully established the igneous origin of trap. The evidence of the heated mass upon the sandstone below was as plain as that of a hot poker upon wood. Prof. Agassiz toid a story of Werner, the great advocate of the theory of aqueous origin of rocks, who, when on a journey he was assured that he could find facts upsetting his theory by traveling 40 miles further, turned back and went home. He thought that if the advocates of the aqueous origin of the trap would examine some of these places, they would be convined that they were wrong. Prof. Agassiz said that while examining the shores of Lake Superior, be noticed that there was great difference in the dykes having different trends. He came to the conclusion that they were there was great difference in the dykes having different trends. He came to the conclusion that they were of different dates, and that they had great influence in the formation of the basin of the Lake.

Prof. Wm. B. Rogers coincided in maintaining the igneous origin of trap, and adduced some instances supporting that theory.

Prof. Agassiz said that he had observed the influence of the rocks upon the dykes, as well as the influence of the dykes upon the rocks. There was a very

good instance of this at Nahant, where the influence of the rock in producing a slow cooling of the hornblende was seen in the very large crystals there found. Prof. Wilson addiced proofs of the igneous origin of trap from the rocks about Edinburgh; they were so striking as to render the theory of Hutton almost a ne-cessity to him.

cessity to him.

Prof. Newberry also alluded to similar appearances in New-Mexico.

After some further discussion the Section adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After some further discussion the Section adjourned.

APTERNON SESSION.

SECTION OF MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS.

After dinner, the Physical and Mathematical Section was called to order by Capt. E. B. Hunt, U. S. N.

The first paper was by James Lewis, Mohawk, N. Y., read by Prof. W. B. Rogers on a new self-registering therracmeter. The expansion of bundle of brase and from wires, is multiplied by levers, and recorded on a fillet of paper, not by a continuous, but by blows at definite intervals, given by clock-work to a pointer, which between the blows moves with little friction, and on being struck records a dot on the fillet. Fillets thus marked were exhibited, and also diagrams and stereographs of the instrument.

In reply to a question of Mr. J. E. Killyard, Prof. W. B. Rogers said Mr. Lewis's instrument was more sensitive than ordinary mercurial thermometers.

Prof. J. Ch. Le. Conte read a paper on the phenomena of the Silver Spring. Marion County, Florida. This spring rises in a basin about 30 feet deep, and pours out a stream large enough for steamers to ascend. Other basins along the stream showed nearly the same depth to the limestone crevices, from which new springs boiled up. The marvelous property of the spring is the great transparency of the water. It seemed on looking down, as though the plumb-bob could be seen just as distinctly under 36 feet of water as it could be through as many feet of air. Experiments on reading cards fastened to bricks, proved that printing could be read at as great a distance under the water as to the eye very much exaggerated, especially under the boat, so that without measurement the bottom appears continually to recede under you as you float, and to spear under your boat about 50 feet deep, and to rise around on every side.

The spring is very steadfast in its flow, receives no

every side.

The spring is very steadfast in its flow, receives no

The spring is very steadfast in its flow, receives no surface water and contains but little lime in solution. In reply to a question of Prof. Coakley, Prof. Le Conte said that at the time of his visit the temperature of the spring was about 71°, which is nearly the mean temperature of the place.

Prof. E. N. Horsford read a paper on the question, "Can the sudden cooling of one end of a metallic bar develop heat at the other end?" After reconnting the observations and contradictory results of former experiments, he described his own apparatus. By this, he proved that the question must be answered in the negative, confirming the very accurate experiments of Berker and Schröder. Next, he detailed the experiments by which he sought to explain the prevalent delard of a bar into cold water makes the end held in the hand botter.

lusion of blacksmi hs that the plunging of the heated end of a bar into cold water makes the end held in the hand hotter.

Mr. H. A. Clum exhibited a barometer for common rather than ecientific use. It has movable strips, marked "Fair," "Changeable," "Rain," &c., to be raised or lowered, according to the hight of the place above tide-water, and a scale with fixed index also, to mark the average hight of the barometer.

No other paper being ready, the section adjourned.

SECTION OF GEOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

The section met at 4½ o clock. Dr. Gibbes, Prof. Wilson, Prof. Worthen, and Dr. Gibbon, were elected members of the Nominating Committee.

Prof. W. B. Regers gave an account of the recent discovery by Mr. Normar Easton of fossils in the conflorerate of Taunton River, near Fall River. Mr. Easton had found fossils in the pebbles forming parts of the conglomerate boulders about Fall River. In company with Mr. Easton, he had traced this conglomerate to its beds in Dighton, where they had found fossils in the pebbles in sifus. Within a day or two, Mr. Easton had found such fossils in the conglomerate about Newport. The fossils seemed to be allied to the Lingula prima of the Potsdam sandstone. This was opening a new field of fossils.

Col. Foster said that this was approaching the dawn of life. He had little doubt that this was the Lingula of the Potsdam sandstone. He had no doubt that the Potsdam sandstone existed in New-England, covered, perhaps by the waters of the ocean. The geological survey of New-England was yet to be made. He believed that the palazoic rocks would be found on the Atlantic slope in full series.

Prof. Regers thought this would be found sporadically in many portions of New-England; but so enormous had been the extent of the denudation, that he feared that in no place could the continuous series be found.

Prof. Agassiz thought the specimens were sufficient

found.

Frof. Agassiz thought the specimens were sufficient for a comparison with the fossils of the Potsdam sandstone. The discovery of the Paradoxides corrected one general statement, that the conglomerates of New England were of the Carboniferous p riod. This was another step in the same direction, and a very interesting one.

another step in the same direction, and a very many ing one.

Prof. Rogers spoke of the singularity of the fact that the Paradoxidis was found also in the oldest rocks of Bohemis, separated from its fellow in New-England by such wide extent of sea and land.

Prof. Rogers then gave some account of his geological observations in the northeastern part of Maine. He believed that there would be found there rocks of

the Upper Siberian, corresponding to the Clinton group and rising into the Devonian and Lower Car-beniferous towards the coal meadows of New-Brans-

wick.

Prof. Agassiz reported that he could not tax his eyes enough to determine that fossil. He believed now, though he could only wink at it, that it was conferens, and that it was Voltfia, and proved the ock to be Trisseic. Should this prove true, it would e as great a discovery as Paradoxides. Prop Rogers said he had thought of that, but from a

of a great number of specimens, had con omparison of a great number of specimens, had con-luced that it was not that.

Prof. Agassiz—Look at the stems, the little scales on

Prof. Regers said he knew that, and was quite willing that it should be determined to be Triassic. He thought, however, that they underlay the sub-Carboni-

ferous.

Prof. Agassiz said that about six mouths ago he received very fine impressions of fishes from the coal of
the Albert mines; and, from the slight examination he
had been able to make, he was inclined to think that
they were Triassic. He should, however, he obliged
to examine them more closely before giving any de-

ció-d opinion.

Mr. Newberry thought the fossil was a fern rather than a confer, and that it belonged to the Devonian rather than the Triassic.

Prof. Regers presented also some specimens of what at first sight appeared to be Mica slate, which he had found at St. John's, Me., but which proved to be full of fragments of lingula. By and by he hoped to be able to determine what particular lingula they were.

Mr. J. S. Newberry then spoke of the origin and distribution of the sedimente composing the stratified rocks of North America. He believed that mechanical deposition by the ocean took place only along shore.

deposition by the ocean took place only along shore, and that in the deep sea the sediments were entirely organic. He had found this to be proved by the deep sea lead. It had been supposed that every great river carried its sediment far out to sea, but the coundings off the mouth of the Mississippi showed that the deoff the mouth of the Mississippi showed that the de-posits were confined to a very limited space. Appa-rently all the sediment which was not deposited within a few miles of the mouth of the river were taken into chemical solution. He adduced many instances of rocks from New-England to New-Mexico going to prove this theory of mechanical deposition. He thought be found in the cretaceous of the West indi-cations that it was deposited during a period of de-pression, and he believed that the tertiary of that por-tion of the country was deposited during a period of ion of the country was deposited during a period o

EVENING LECTURE.

It was evident at 8 o'clock that Aquidneck Hall had less attraction for many members of the Association than that exerted by the music, and fireworks, and cannon which announced Senator Douglas's arrival. But although the attendance was small in number, it comprised all the leading men in the Physical Section, and Prof. Henry was listened to with deep attention, and loudly applauded at the close of his interesting paper on Atmospherical Electricity. The paper had been announced as a lecture; it was not, however, a been announced as a lecture; it was not, however, a popular lecture, but an attempt to make a positive adpopular lecture, but an attempt to make a positive advance in science—to give some new views in regard to the electricity of thonder storms. He would commence, however, by recalling to remembrance some lamitiar truths. The prevailing winds in the United States are westerly, especially in the higher currents. The general principles of the Espyan theory of storms may be considered established, namely, that a storm arises from a lower stratum of air becoming moist and warm, and rising by specific levity to or through the upper current, by which it is carried easterly. The condensation of the moisture produces heat and keeps up the upward motion, so that a fresh supply of the warmed stratum below keeps rising for an indefinite period. Many of the storms which seeps up the upward motion, so that a fresh sapply of the warmed stratum below keeps rising for an indefinite period. Many of the storms which pass cut on the Atlantic started at the very bases of the Rocky Mountains. But our Summer thunder-showers arise any where—sometimes many simultaneously spring into existence over large tracts of the country. They usually all move easterly. The motion of the atr in these thunder-storms is on all sides toward them, yet just about the base of the storm a strong outward current is produced—a stiff blow, just under the advancing edge of the cloud—apparently caused by the falling of the rain-drops. This current, on getting a short distance from the cloud, turns up and goes back toward the cloud. These thunder-showers are sometimes very local in their action, the whole disturbance being sometimes of less than half a mile in altitude, and over a few miles of area. Prof.

H. was satisfied that while Esny's general views were correct, yet Dr. Hare was also right in saying that electricity plays an important part in storms; and Redfield, in saying that storms sometimes rotate. As to the source of the electricity in the air he showed that it was not the friction of the winds on the earth, nor vegetation, nor evaporation, but that it was still unknown—mnless we adopt Peltier's hypothesis, that the earth is a great negatively electrified, insulated conductive, and the air is electrified by induction. This will account for all the phenomena, and it has not yet received from scientific men the consideration it degerees.

will account for all the phenomena, and it desertes.

The fac's which show the correctness of this hypothesis are such as this, that a long insulated conductor showing no signs of electricity, will show them the instant that one end is brought nearer to the earth than the other. The lower end then becomes positive, the upper negative. Now, the column of rising vapor in a storm is a partial conductor, in the right position to be thus electrified by induction from the earth. When, as in a thonder-storm, the vapor is dense the quantity of electricity is sufficient to produce disruptive decharges; but those discharges produce only a temporary relief to the tension since the column of vapor is continually renewed, and electrified afresh by induction. A thunder storm consists usually of two clouds, one above and one below, between which flushes of lightning play, and this explains, to those who know that a point can receive a spark from a double conductor, how the lightning-rods even of a city are often struck and their points melted.

The water-spout or tonado contains still denser vapor, and the lower cloud actually touches the earth. Of these he would speak more fully in some fature paper.

paper.

MEMBERS' REGISTER.

MEMBERS' REGISTER.

J. S. Peirce Cambridge, Mass. Chas K. Frost, Brattleboro', Vt. Issae Bradford National Alma-Chis, E. Brace, Ashrabula. O., wm. S. Haines, Prov. R. I.

W. Emmerry, Washingten D. C. Peref B. Stillians, ir., Yale, ast ton, Mass.

Henry Barnard, Chancellor University of Wisconsin.

Chas H. Hitchcook, Amherst, Mass.

Prof. Wm. M. Gillesple, Union Prof. Jos. M. Locke, Cincinnati, O.

Charles of Ferris, University of T. H. Safford, Harvard Observatory

John McRee, Camden, S. C.

THIRD DAY. NEWPORT, Friday, Aug. 3, 1860.

The lecture by Prof. Henry of the Smithsonia on Atmospherical Electricity, given last evening in Aquidneck Hall, was not so largely attended as it would have been had not Newport been thrown into a parexysm of curiosity by the arrival of that distin-guished health-seeker, Senator Douglas. Many Newporters went up to Rocky Point yesterday, and participated in the disposal of the 150 bushels of clams, and ipated in the disposal of the 150 bushels of clams, and the three hours' speech which the Senator found it recessary to make—for his health. On his arrival, at about 8 p. m., he was received by three or four dozen soldiers and music, and escorted to the Park, in which the Old Mill is situated. The Park was well filled; there must have been two or three thousand persons promenading in it, attracted by a considerable exhibition of fireworks, due, it is said, to the interposition of our banker. Belmont. There was a transparency showing to the "Little" visitor at the Atlantic House, "Welcome, Douglas;" but it was noticed that even this was double-faced, for against it was "The Will of the People.' Mayor Craoston made a little speech at the hitle Senator in a little arbor, and the Little Giant replied that he had come "for his health;" that Newport was the place for that sort of thing, and he trusted it would always remain so for the citizens of all the States of this glorious, &c.; he hoped, furthermore, since he had come "for his health," that politics would be banished from this beautiful island during his stay; also that ks.

The people of this island are very considerate to-

since he had come "for his heath, that pointes would be banished from this beautiful island during his stay; also thawks.

The people of this island are very considerate toward strangers and have much reason to be so, but yet I see that the transparency at the Republican Headquarters still bears the names of Lincoln and Hamlin.

And more. There is a considerable colored population here, who, sad to say, are suspected of dialoyalty to the Platform of the Bell and Everett party. For this very week a lively, sprightly woman (pronounced wench in Southern auction-rooms) who was brought on by a New-Orleans lady as a part of her baggage to the Ocean House has recklessly and without the least regard for her future welfare, deserted her mistress. The ingratitude of this deluded woman is the subject of nucle condemnation among the rightest-minded people. It is anspected that she was led astray by the disloyal and treasonous un-belleverett colored folks above refrred to.

red treasonous un-belleverett colored folks above refered to.

A circumstance of peculiar atrocity is that this criminally thoughtless girl, who has thus robbed harself of the delights of home, and her mistress of some \$1,500 worth of soul and body and delicate merchantable limbs, took with her \$250 in cash, beloning to her mistress. The pestilent colored folk have for this foul crime no severer term than "back wages."

But this does not divert the attention of the men of science from their business. They proceed, although they have "Sectional Committees," without regard to any lines other than geological lines, or lines of equal magnetic variation.

Many additional members have come in, and the

Many additional members have come in, and the meeting is now at its fullest.

MORNING SESSION.

The Association met at 10½ a. m. The Hall of the Representatives was crowded. New members were accepted.

Col. Foster moved that the Association divide into

sections, and there was an adjournment for that purpose. SECTION OF MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS.

count of some experiments with the stereoscope upon the phenomena of binocular vision, and still more strik-ing experiments without a stereoscope, by which he demonstrated that S r David Brewster's explanation of inocular vision as resulting from a successive com-ination, point by point, of the two images, will not SECTION OF GEOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

SECTION OF GEOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

The prof. J. D. Whiney exhibited a geological map of the lead region of Dinois and Missouri, which is to be engraved for his report; and gave a minute description of the manner in which the lead-bearing rocks occur.

CARD FROM THE DIRECTORS OF THE GREAT EASTERN.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

Siz: As it may be desirable that the public should e informed of the steps taken by the Directors of the Great Eastern to insure ample means of refreshment for the visitors on board during the late excursion to Case May, I am instructed to state that the whole ar rangements for providing meals and refreshments were undertaken by Mr. Cox, with whom it was stipulated as follows:

The utmost attention to visitors will be required The utmost attention to visitors will be required from those under your directions, and the refreshments to be provided will neither, in quality nor quantity, fall below the standard of a first-class hotel."

By order of the Directors
I am, Sir, yours very respectfully.
J. H. YATES, Secretary.

Steamship Great Eastern, New York, August 2, 1880.

THE TRIP OF THE GREAT EASTERN.

To the Editor of The S. Y. Tribune.

Sir: In regard to the Great Eastern trip to Cape

Sir: In regard to the Great Eastern trip to Cape Sir: In regard to the Great Eastern trip to Cape May, allow me in coo ness and fairness to say, that all who were in her with the object of seeing her saling properties tested, were abundantly satisfied, and left her with grateful hearts and contented spirits. There were, however, others on board, whose nain object in the trip was, no doubt, by eating and drinking—two institutions toward which I have no special objections, but one would think that the last place, had they exercised their common reasen—in a crowd of nearly 3,000 persons—for them to be gratified.

one would think that the last place, had they exercised that common reason—in a crowd of nearly 3,000 persons—for them to be gratified.

The main cause of confusion may also be traced to the fact that, if their wants were not immediately supplied, the waiters would be, abused, and the complaning parties given as wide, a berth by them as possible; while, on the other hand, the old travelers would questly take their seats at the table, and as quietly wait their turn to be served, and in no instance did the writer get up from the table with ut his every want being supplied, and he comfortably washed himself, also, at least three times during the trip.

It is also due to say that the Captain and officers gave to all the greatest heirture for irohe and fun, even to parading the deck on a drill—the company 200 strong—at so late an hour as half-past two in the morning. All may be sammed up in the fact, that the day of starting turned out to be so very line, that there were some 1,200 more on heard than the caterer, Mr. Cox, had a right to expect, and, had the instincts of "the gentleman" prevailed, but little confusion would, even under the circumstances, have been experienced.

S. C. New-York Aug. 3, 1860.

A WORD FROM DOWORTH'S BAND.

A WORD FROM DOWORTH'S BAND.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: The article relative to the Great Eastern excervion to Cape May which appeared in your columns on Wednesday merning reflects upon the character of the Band, and believing, from your well-known reputation for liberality and patter, that you would not contenance an unmerited injury, I ask for the following the same extensive publicity through your columns as was given to the article in question. In our engagement with the Directors our routine of duty was named: it was to perform with the Military Band during the ship's progress down the Bay; to divide the Band, if necessary for dancing, and play from a until 11 o'clock: to give a grand concert on the afternoon of Wednesday at Cape May, and again play for dancing from 9 until 11 on the return, and the usual playing while coming up the Bay on the following morning. The author of the article must either have a fertile imagination, or have been informed by the possessor of such, or he would not be cognizant of that of which we have no knowledge. I can assure the gentlemas that we need no additional pecuniary incentive to cause the performance of duties engaged for, though there are occasions when we are taxed beyond our strength, and it requires an amount of all-most superhamms anaiolity to decline the preasing invitations. we heed no some loss pecuniary incentive to cause use prance of duties engaged for, though there are occasions we are taxed beyond our strength, and it requires an amount most superhaums unimhility to decline the pressing invite to attempt more than nature will permit from those innocrolatile individuals who believe that everything including men, young or aged but especially musicians, were sole ated for their especial inconsiderate assumement. The for and the muscles may be so exhausted as to refuse, deep will, to do their part. This is nothing. We must be continued the continued wall of an accited multime, to provide a the continued wall of an accited multime.

beyond our etipolated duty, when water even is difficult to obtain. The precution may have been taken to so arrange the duty as to allow for recruiting atrength; but what care the mallitude of self-constituted bosses? These are the facts. The band performed five hours on the wind instruments—that is from 2 performed five hours on the wind instruments—that is from 2 p.m. until?, or after the ship had crossed the Ear. Between 8 not do clock, they were again on deck with string instruments for dancing. The deck was then almost covered with matreases, and the band were told (by authority) they were not wanted. About II o'clock in Yates desired them to go on deck and play for dancing, which was done, the "melancholy strains" which your correspondent facetiously alludes to being the "Lancers," polkas, &c. There were but few dancers—latterly some dozen men. The last music performed by the band was not accompanied by any dancers. They then retired. On Wednesday, intesd of one concert, four were given—one at 7½, at 11, at 2½, and at 6½. The band commenced playing at 8 o'clock, and stepped, by desire of Capt, Hall, at 16 o'clock p, m. You will perceive that the band did perform their part, and even more than engaged to do, and there is not an instance where the band refused, even under the trying circumstances; and I would beg of reporters and correspondents, when having occasion to mention musicians, to remember that one of their light words finds the way to a great many; and permit me to express the belief that we, as a class, are in no way more proper subjects for the derogatory innuesde than any other, the respectable fraternity of Behemian included.

Very truly your.

M. K. BOTSFORD.

Dodworth's Band Office, No. 422 Broome street

CITY ITEMS.

The recent visits of the Chicago Zouaves and the

Savannah Blues to this city, afforded its merchants another opportunity to save the Union. The Zouaves were approved by competent military authorities as the best disciplined corps in the United States, and were received and entertained with the utmost distinction by detachments of the 2d, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 12th, 13th, and 79th Regiments of this city and Brooklyn; but as they bailed from a Free State, no notice was taken of them by the merchants, nor money subscribed for their entertainment. The Savannah Biues, having no special claims to military distinction, were received and entertained by a single company, the City Guard, attached to the 9th Regiment; but the merchants. anxious as usual to prostrate themselves at the feet of King Cotton, raised a fund of \$2,500 for feasing the representatives of Slavedom at a series of banquets, where the Union was served up boiled, broiled, stewed, fried, scalloped, roasted, and on the half-shell. The reception speech on board the steamer that brought the Southerners explicitly informed them that their enter tairers were "white men." The Blues only brought with them a drummer and fifer-their fall military band, being principally composed of black property owned in Savannah, might have been converted in o humanity by touching free soil.

made at the Marshal's Office, of the population of the city, compared with the last State Census, based on returns received thus far:

Tre total population in 1850 was 515,574. It is found that there are some new branches of industry which did not exist in 1850, and for which the statute makes no provision, such as the photographic and stereoscopic arts; but the Marshals, of course, are instructed to include them. As far as the returns have come in, Brooklyn appears to have increased some 33 per cent since 1855. There are 50 Marshals in this census district outside of the City of New-York, only two of whom have as yet made full returns, namely, Hudson City and the town of Islip, Suffolk County, Long Island. The last page of their returns could not be inspected, but the population will not vary 25 from the figures we give. Hudson City, Columbia County, 7,320; in 1855, 6 720; increase, 600. The town of felip, Suffelk County, Lorg Island, has 818 houses, and inbabitante, 3,920; in 1855, 3,282; increase, 638. Reurns come in slowly, and it will be several weeks before they will be complete.

Marshal Merrall has about completed the census of

Marshal Merrall has about completed the census of the two townships of East and Southampton. The increase in the two towns since the last census is about 300. The population of the two towns in 1855 was 8,806; Easthampton, 2,145; Southampton, 6,661; this year they foot up about 9,100. The population of Sag Harbor has slightly decreased; in 1855 the inhabitants numbered 2,776; in the Easthampton district, 735; in the Southampton is about 1,700. In the western part of Southampton township, the social statistics are somewhat interesting. The returns show large numbers of married women under the age of 16, and some 15.

We received from Mr. Mills, Census Marshal for this town, the following figures denoting the present population of the principal villages. We annex the figures in 1855. A comparison will show at a glance where the tide of immigration is setting:

1860. 1855. Bellport..... 1,562 1,247 97 1,136 542 182 In the census of 1855, a portion of Smithtown wa ncluded .- [Patchogue Her

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY SERMON .- To-morrow the Rey. Gardiner Spring, serior pastor of the eld Brick Presbyterian Church, will preach his "golden serin the new edifice erected by his congregation on the corner of Thirty-seventh street and Fifth ave nue. Few instances have been recorded in the religious history of this city where a pastor presided so long over the exercises of a single parish, or where a pastor's teachings have been so revered by successive generations under his charge. The name of Gardiner Spring is so identified with the annals of the Brick Church, that to recall the latter is to bring to mind the image and utterances of the former. On Monday the congregation in end to visit their minister, and present him with a fitting testimonial of his long and faithful labors in their behalf. The occasion cannot fail to be of a most interesting nature.

COMMISSIONERS OF POLICE.—At the meeting of the Board vesterday, John L. Flynn of the Fourth Ward and John T. Williams of the First Ward, were dismissed from the Department. The resignation of Samnel Lent of the Fourth Ward, was accepted.

How to Collect City Letters. -So long as the want of confidence manifested by the public in the present method of depositing and collecting the mails continues to exist, any suggestion is of importance that offers to substitute another and better plan. Here is one that seems at least as feasible as any that has been made. Let the cars on all our city railroads be supplied with Post-Office boxes, and contracts be made that will insure their stopping whenever required, so as to give people an opportunity to deposit letters. Receiving boxes should be established at the Park sta-tions, into which the "starters" of the several lines might empty the mails thus collected, and from which carriers should convey them to the General Post-Office every half bour during the day. This plan could easily be adopted at once, would of course greatly reduce the expenses of the carrier department, and would speedily, if we mistake not, gain the approba-tion and confidence of the public.

CONSECRATION OF A JEWISH SYNAGOGUE. - To morrow the congregation B'nai Israel deditate their new synagegue. The congregation formerly wor-shiped in Chrystie street, but the increase of their numbers made it necessary to choose a new location.

They have, therefore, purchased the Baptist church at
the corner of Stanton and Forsyth streets, for the sum of \$11,000. The edifice has undergone many important alterations, and has been furnished with all the accessories of the Jewish worship.

DEATH OF MAJOR FAIRCHILD. - Brevet Major Morton Fairchild, of the New-York Volunteers, who served with much honor in the Mexican war, died at his residence in this city yesterday morning, at 4 o'clock, of consumption. He leaves a widow, but no children. He held a position in the Custom-house for several

The officers of the 1st Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers Scott Life Guard, Commandants of Regiments and

TEST - Br. Crouge to Kross Chiesty - This mornish Brigader in the lat Division N. Y. S. M., and the officers of the I. O. of F and A. M , of which he was a member, will meet at the Armory of the 8th Reg ment, Centre Market, this evening, at 71 o'clock, make the necessary arrangements for his faneral Manday.

> THE LATE INCENDIARY FIRE AT POUGHEEPSIB-\$500 Reward.—Two or three attempts have been made by incendiaries to set buildings on fire at Pongt-keepsie, since the late destructive fires in that city, but without success. On one occasion, the inestidiaries were pursued but managed to escape. The two who were arrested for cutting the hose, have since been let out on bail. Two or three nights since a man was teard prowling about the stables at the carnet of Washington and Lafayette streets. He was twice spoken to, but did not answer, when a pistol was fired at him without effect. Before he could be fired spom at him without effect. Before he could be area apon-again, he had turned a corner of a building and ex-caped. The Common Council of Poughkeepsie have offered a reward of \$500 for the conviction of any person or persons who have set fire to any buildings with in the past month, as all the fires during that time have undoubtedly been the work of incendiaries.

BARN STRUCK BY LIGHTNING -BOY KILLED .- OR Thursday afternoon, a barn belonging to Mr. Jerrold Underwood, at Crum Elbow, Dutchess County, was struck by lightning and consumed. In it at the time were Mr. Underwood, a hired man, and boy, unleading oats. Mr. Underwood and the boy were on the mow receiving sheaves from the man on the load. When the barn was struck Mr Underwood saw the boy fall backward, and it is supposed that he was instantly killed. Mr. Underwood received a shock, but retained his senses, jumped to the floor, and escaped. The barn was on fire in an instant and was soon consumed, w its contents. Loss, \$1,000. Insured.

FATAL EXPLOSION .- On Monday afternoon, as the Great Eastern was passing down the bay, the hands on board the steamer Montgomery fired a salute. While so doing one of the gans exploded, whereby Henry Jones was fatally injured, and one or two others slightly. Jones was carried to the Hospital, where he died yesterday morning. Coroner Gamble held an inquest in the case, resulting in a verdict of

FUNERAL OF CAPT. CRABTREE. - The last tribute of respect was yesterday afternoon paid to the remains of the late Capt. Crabtree by the relatives of the family, his recent, associates, the Commissioners of Emigra-tion, and a large number of sorrowing friends. The funeral services were solemnized at Dr. Bellows's Church, corner of Fourth avenue and Twenty-second street, the coffin being placed in the chuncel. The Rev. Dr. Farley delivered a brief but eloquent and impressive discourse, in which he alluded to the many virtues of the deceased, and the void created by hi death in public and private circles.

The remains were conveyed to Greenwood Ceme

tery, Messrs, Spies Scott, Kennedy, Marshall, Cortis, Carrigan, Commercer Vermilye, Munster, and Liver-more acting as pall-bearers. During the day the dage were displayed from the shipping and the City Hall at half-mast, in honor of the deceased.

ALLEGED CRUELTIES ON BOARD THE NORTH STAR. We have received from San Francisco, by the Overland Mail, a formal document, alleging shocking crustties and outrageous treatment of ore w and passenger to have been practiced by the officers of the Vander bilt steamer North Star, on one of her trips to Aspin-well, this season. The paper is signed by 32 cabin and

well, this season. The paper is eigned by 32 cabin and 128 steerage coassengers, among whom are the names of many well-known in San Francisco. The matter to which their signatures are affixed is as follows:

We, whose names are hereunts annexed, certify that we were passengers abcard the steamship North Star Capt. Jenes Commander, leaving New-York May 21st 1866 for Aspiravill, and would recome end that the authorities of Now-York would inquire into the following circumstances, viz:

How. or in what manner, two laborers on said steamship North Star came by their death believing as we do that they died from harsh usage, one of them being Jogged and compiled to work until he dropped, and then was hauled up through one of those large pipes (Leading from the furnace) in an unnerciful manner. That the other induces the manner of extreme violence, which were said to have been righted by the engineer's hammer, and shally died from the effects of the same.

We wish also to state that there are not a sufficient number of small boats and life preservers on the North Star for the safety of the passengers in case of acci-

dent.

It is highly necessary that some means be adopted by the Federal authorities in New-York to see that no other than wholesome food be given to those who are obliged to take passage on this steamer, as the meat we were served with was very much tainted, and nufit for

were served with was very much tainted, and unit for human fool.

Every humane consideration demands that the proper authorities should at once thoroughly investigate the various matters alleged in the above protest, and if they are found to be based on fact, bring the responsible parties to answer therefor, in such wise as will prevent a repetition of all this cruelty and fraud.

A WORD FROM THE MORRISANIA POSTMASTER

A WORD FROM THE MORRISANIA POSTMASTER. To the Editor of The N. V. Tribune.

Sir: As I don't believe you would be willingly as cessory to the commission of injustice to any one, perhaps you will permit me to say, in defense of myself, that your informant cannot certify to a single instance where information has been denied, or that a letter has been detained in the Post-Office at Morrisania, except for postage or want of satisfactory identity of the claimant, since the present incumbent has had charge of said office. I suspect that he (your informant) is a person who called here the other day, and whose wrath was kindled in this wise (as the fact of siandering me in the papers agrees with the threats made at the time). It was on Friday last he (if the same person) posted two letters for Boston, one for Elizur Wright, the other for the Hon. Charles Summer. The former was stamped, the latter he insisted upon my sending without stamp; and, on my refusing to do so, knowing it to be contrary to postage law (see see, 102, chap. 7, which I offered to show him), he became outrageons, and was actually guilty of assault and bakery, for

outrageous, and was actually guilty of assault and battery, for which he will yet be made amenable to the law. THOS. DODWORTH, Postmaster. Morrisonia, Westchester Co., New York.

POSTAGE AGAIN.-How is it that I, who have a boy in the New-York Post office, an obliged to pay one cent for every paper published in New-York that is put into it, while the same paper, if sent to me through the mail to Manhattan-ville, or Harlem, or any post-office in the county where pub-lished, would go free. Is it right, or legal, or is it only another proof of the inconsistency of our postage laws. A READER.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM.—It is astonishing to see the crowds at Bannum's. There is no consistent of the crowds at Bannum's. There is no consistent every available spot is filled with curious and interested visitors early an late, as if the public were determined to revive the fortunes of the great shown an as fast as clocks run them down. But whoseer will read his announcements, in either the bills or advertisements, will not be surprised, for such a combitation of novelties and annusciments was never before offered at any establishment for four times the amount of the price of admission there. The living curiosities alone exceed everything ever before known, while the annusements in the large and airy Lecture-Room will shoke the "dumps" out of the veriest hypochondriac.

To Those who Would Know Themselves. TO THOSE WHO WOULD KNOW THEMSELVES.

—Phrenology is the most useful of all modern discovaries. It teaches life and its laws, and unfelds human nature in all its aspects. Its fundamental doctrine is, that each mental faculty is exercised by means of a portion of the brain, called its orgaz, the size and quality of which are proportionate to its powers. He proof is antiversal nature. Prof. Sillman says: "Phrenology undertakes to accomplish for man what philosophy performs for the external world: it claims to disclose the real state of things, and to present nature unvalled and in her true features." Examinations and Whittyn Dissipatory of Curanarym daily, by

FOWLER & WELLS, NO. DOS Broodway.

[Advertisement.] FANCY CUTLERY, embracing a large variety of Sportamen's Pen and Pocket-knives of the most rare and beau ful patterns many of which have never been before imports for sale by J. & S. Saundens, No. 7 Astor House, Broadway.

The following two PATENTS SABATIER at 130 Spring et.: Blace Frances Varrier, suisable for varnishing all kinds of Leather, such as Boots, Harnoss, Medals; also, Frances Poliss, for parior and other Furnishes. At the above depot these Varnishes are offered at the loss prices of cours a bottle. Mulitary Accountements renewed at \$1 a est

GAS, GAS.—Dealers are invited to call at our great manufacturing depot for new styles of Gas Fixtens. &c. Wanna, Phot & Co., No. 579 Broadway, opposite hibbot.

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